

Acknowledgements

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FURTHER OCCURRENCE OF STIGMELLA ACERIS (FREY) IN KENT. — One of my frequent brief roadside pauses produced a single vacated mine of this species on *Acer campestre* at Tilden Road, Ulcombe, near Maidstone on 9th September 1980, and apparently a new record for vice county 15. Up until 1976, this species was only known in Britain from two Kentish records, but I believe that of late it has been recorded from elsewhere in Britain. — N. F. HEAL, "Fosters", Detling Hill, near Maidstone, Kent.

APION SIMILE KBY. (COL. : APIONIDAE) IN S. E. LONDON. — For some obscure reason this birch-feeding *Apion*, not normally regarded as uncommon or even especially local, has always been very rare to me. I am inclined to think it must have become scarcer than formerly in at any rate the south-east, though in the 1950s or thereabouts Mr. J. A. Parry used to find it general in the Canterbury district. I had met with it, always singly, only at Mickleham (Surrey), Bricket and Knebworth Woods (Herts.), and Fleet (Hants.), and once swept one from a privet hedge in my former garden at Blackheath which must have come from some birches in the next garden. Finally, I was agreeably surprised to beat a female *A. simile* from a birch in my present garden at Charlton on 12.v.80, and a male from the same tree on 3.ix.80; the two captures together practically prove it to be breeding there. The host tree is plentiful in the district, but the same clearly cannot be said of the weevil. It might be expected, for instance, in the woods at Shooters Hill, but I could never find it there. — A. A. ALLEN.

RECENT INCREASE OF SPHAEROPHORIA RUEPELLII WIED. (DIPT. : SYRPHIDAE) IN N. W. KENT. — This small hover-fly is rightly accounted uncommon or rare as a rule; in the course of rather intensive collecting in my Blackheath garden from 1961 to 1973 it occurred only very sporadically, and in